



# COVID-19: The importance of helping to keep employees informed

COVID-19 is still an ongoing concern.<sup>1</sup> Discussing its potential impact can help those in your organization recognize the importance of vaccinations.<sup>2</sup>

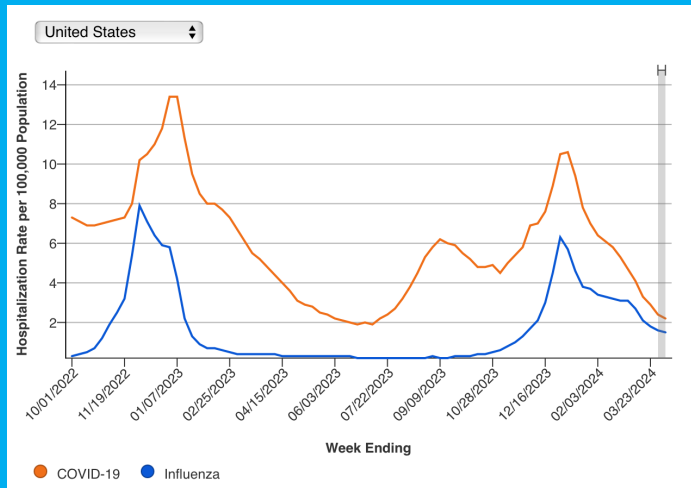
## Understand the impact

While some of the effects of COVID-19 have been felt by all of us, not everyone may know the numbers.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) COVID Data Tracker, between August 2, 2020 and April 13, 2024, there were

**>6.9 million**  
COVID-19-RELATED HOSPITALIZATIONS  
(all ages) in the United States<sup>3</sup>

**COVID-19 and Influenza: Estimated new US hospital admissions by week in all ages, as reported to the CDC<sup>4</sup>**



Data presented through 4/13/2024; as of 4/18/2024.  
Data source: CDC's National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/covid19/hospital-reporting.html>  
Data are preliminary and subject to change as more data become available.

According to the CDC's COVID Data Tracker, in all ages, between September 2, 2023 and March 2, 2024, there were

**558K+**  
**COVID-19-associated hospitalizations and ~42K estimated deaths**

due to COVID-19 and its complications—that's over 1600 deaths per week<sup>3,5</sup>

**2023-2024 formula COVID-19 vaccines are underutilized<sup>6-8</sup>**

According to the CDC, in 2023-2024,

**>95%** of adults hospitalized with COVID-19

**HAD NOT RECEIVED A 2023-2024 FORMULA COVID-19 VACCINE**

Despite the prevalence of the disease, as of April 6, 2024, only 22.8% of eligible patients 18 years of age and older received a 2023-2024 formula COVID-19 vaccine since September 14, 2023; 48.9% of that same group received a flu shot.

# Help your employees make informed decisions about COVID-19 vaccination

- COVID-19 continues to cause severe illness and hospitalization throughout the year<sup>1,9</sup>
- Protection from previous COVID-19 vaccination wanes over time, and **new variants continue to emerge**<sup>6,10</sup>
- Updated COVID-19 vaccines are **designed to help protect against circulating variants**<sup>11</sup>

## COVID-19 can affect productivity

- It's important for employers to help eligible individuals stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccination recommendations, to help protect against serious illness<sup>2,11</sup>
- Potential to miss work while caring for a sick family member<sup>2</sup>
- Potential for productivity loss due to Long COVID and doctor's visits<sup>2,12\*</sup>

\*Due to the limitations of current data, it is difficult to predict the long-term economic burden of Long COVID.



## What you can do

### Informed employees mean a healthier business

Employers like you benefit when more of your employees have been vaccinated against COVID-19 and you have healthier workers taking fewer sick days, allowing you to maintain productivity and reduce healthcare costs.<sup>2</sup> **Consider discussing with eligible individuals how staying up to date with COVID-19 vaccination recommendations can help protect against serious illness.**<sup>6</sup>

**References:** 1. COVID-19 update for the United States. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Updated April 22, 2024. Accessed April 24, 2024. <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#datatracker-home> 2. Sell H, Schaible K, Gouveia-Pisano JA, et al. Economic burden of COVID-19 for employers and employees in the United States. *J Med Econ*. 2024;27(1):267-278. doi:10.1080/13696998.2024.2309835 3. Trends in United States COVID-19 hospitalizations, deaths, emergency department (ED) visits, and test positivity by geographic area. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Accessed April 24, 2024. [https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#trends\\_cumulativehospitalizations\\_select\\_00](https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#trends_cumulativehospitalizations_select_00) 4. Severe viral respiratory illness. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Updated April 18, 2024. Accessed April 24, 2024. <https://www.cdc.gov/respiratory-viruses/data-research/dashboard/illness-severity.html> 5. Trends in United States COVID-19 hospitalizations, deaths, emergency department (ED) visits, and test positivity by geographic area. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Updated April 24, 2024. Accessed April 24, 2024. [https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#trends\\_totaldeaths\\_select\\_00](https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#trends_totaldeaths_select_00) 6. Background for CDC's updated respiratory virus guidance. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Accessed April 24, 2024. <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/imz-managers/coverage/covidvaxview/interactive/vaccination-dashboard.html> 7. Weekly COVID-19 vaccination dashboard. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Accessed April 24, 2024. <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/fluview/dashboard/vaccination-dashboard.html> 8. Weekly flu vaccination dashboard. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Updated April 19, 2024. Accessed April 24, 2024. <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/fluview/dashboard/vaccination-dashboard.html> 9. Trends in United States COVID-19 hospitalizations, deaths, emergency department (ED) visits, and test positivity by geographic area. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Accessed April 24, 2024. [https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#trends\\_weeklyhospitaladmissions\\_select\\_00](https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#trends_weeklyhospitaladmissions_select_00) 10. Menegale F, Manica M, Zardini A, et al. Evaluation of waning of SARS-CoV-2 vaccine-induced immunity: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *JAMA Netw Open*. 2023;6(5):e2310650. doi:10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2023.10650 11. Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Updated March 7, 2024. Accessed April 24, 2024. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/stay-up-to-date.html#print> 12. Howard J, Cloeren M, Vanichkachorn G. Long COVID and occupational medicine practice. *J Occup Environ Med*. 2024;66(1):1-5. doi:10.1097/JOM.0000000000002961.